

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are all the claims pending in the present application. Claims 1-20 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Barkan et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,925,493) in view of Tunncliffe et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,110).

With respect to independent claim 1, Applicants submit that neither Barkan nor Tunncliffe, either alone or in combination, discloses or suggests at least, “wherein said processing means are arranged so as to adapt at least some of the proposals to modify the services and/or resources of said network according to tertiary data,” as recited in claim 1². Tertiary data are, for example, data resulting from marketing studies. An exemplary advantage is that management data can be processed for a communication network according to “business impact” or “business event” based on the “tertiary data.” Neither Barkan nor Tunncliffe disclose or suggest the above-quoted feature or the corresponding exemplary advantage. Therefore, at least based on the foregoing, Applicants submit that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over the applied references.

Applicants submit that independent claim 11 is patentable at least based on reasons similar to those set forth above with respect to independent claim 1.

Applicants also submit that dependent claims 2-10 and 12-20 are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

² Applicants submit that the new feature of claim 1 should be entered as it was previously considered. The features incorporated into claim 1 were previously recited in original claim 4.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No.: 10/657,160

Attorney Docket No.: Q77141

Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

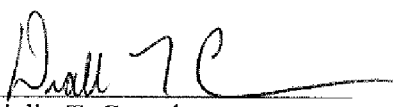
Respectfully submitted,

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